

250 students. My own State of California has 966 students for every one counselor. So I hope my colleagues can cosponsor this important act, and maybe we can see this legislation make some progress here in the House.

Social workers don't just make an impact on our students—social workers give back to our society by helping to make better citizens of us all. They strive to help their clients become the best that they can be, to improve their communities and to confront the injustices that they see. They foster a new way of looking at the world around you—one where you see promise and possibility. Social workers help us to realize a world where mediation, coalition building and effective communication are used to find peaceful solutions instead of military posturing.

I'd like to close by saying, I'm grateful to be part of a profession that is devoted to service to our people and that is so necessary to our society's well-being. I know that many of my dedicated colleagues work quietly in the field and that their contributions are not always given the attention they deserve, so I'm very pleased to be able to celebrate this day and to publicly acknowledge their contributions.

Thank you again, Congressman CIRO RODRIGUEZ for organizing this special order, and also thank you to all of my colleagues who were able to participate tonight.

INTRODUCING A BILL TO DESIGNATE THE "DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. POST OFFICE" IN PORTLAND, OREGON

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 28, 2007*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today, I am introducing a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 630 Northeast Killingsworth Avenue in Portland, Oregon as the "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Post Office." This post office, located near Martin Luther King Boulevard, shall serve to remind us of the civil rights leader who inspired a nation and served as a catalyst for change. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream of equality and brotherhood between people of all creeds and colors remains a vital and relevant vision. While our nation has come a long way since the days of the civil rights movement, it will always benefit us to be reminded of the ideals and inspiration of Dr. King. I am honored to introduce this bill as another tribute to and reminder of this remarkable leader.

ANIMAL FIGHTING PROHIBITION ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

**HON. STEVE KING**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 26, 2007*

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, on February 7, 2007, the House Committee of the Judiciary passed by voice vote H.R. 137, the Animal Fighting Prohibition Enforcement Act of 2007. This is a bad piece of legislation that will

greatly devalue human life in the eyes of the law.

H.R. 137 would make it a federal felony to transport a chicken across state lines for the purpose of exhibiting it in a fight. Currently, 49 states have laws on the books to address this issue. To add a federal law would add another layer of bureaucracy to an already complicated legal code.

I believe that human life is diminished by our making it a felony to transport animals for fighting, without first making it a felony to take a minor girl across a state line for an abortion. It is a strong conviction of mine to fight for the sanctity of life.

While I believe that it is important that we act humanely in our treatment of animals, I do not believe that we should put their welfare ahead of unborn babies or minor girls. I call upon the Humane Society to work for humanity to humanity first.

Until we provide a higher standard of protection for human life, I will oppose making interstate transportation of animals for purposes of animal fighting a felony. In the U.S., we are faced with the alarming practice of people taking a minor girl across state lines for an abortion to avoid their own state's laws that require the minor's parents to be notified. Federal legislation, CIANA, the Child Interstate Abortion Notification Act, would only make this abhorrent activity, which exploits a young woman and kills her child, a misdemeanor. Though this legislation has not yet become law, it is a step forward in the right direction. Many who I know opposed CIANA in the past will vote today for the misdemeanor in current law, transporting a chicken, to become a felony, thereby placing animal welfare over that of a young girl and her unborn baby.

I believe that we should not place more value on animal life than we do on human life. It makes no sense that killing a person is a misdemeanor offense while transporting animals to a fight is a felony, punishable by three years in a federal penitentiary.

Mr. Speaker, while on the topic of valuing human life, I would like to talk briefly about bio-medical research, which is opposed by animal rights activists. I would like to mention that there is bio-medical research being done demonstrating, through transgenics, that the immune system from a baboon, or a human for that matter, can be spliced into the DNA of a hog to grow a heart a baboon can use.

The heart was then harvested from the hog and transplanted to a baboon. The baboon lived another 6 months with a heart that was grown in a pig. This is longer than the first human heart transplant patient.

But what has been proven now is that humans can transplant through transgenics the human immune system into a hog. In doing so, and we are only 3 years, maybe 4 years away from being able to custom build the human organ. rejection genetics into a pig.

We will be able to very soon custom raise human organs in hogs. Today we are already transplanting out of hogs and into humans anterior cruciate ligaments and heart valves.

We can raise in hogs 28 different organs. Not just hearts, but lungs, esophagus, stomach, bladder, but other important organs as well, kidneys, pancreas, liver, even skin for bum patients; name your organ. Except for the brain.

The reason for bringing up these pigs is that it further illustrates how the animal rights com-

munity, through legislation such as H.R. 137, seeks to pass their agenda for animals on the rest of America. They oppose using animals for lifesaving research like I just mentioned.

My home state of Iowa is an agricultural state. We understand the importance of animal husbandry and good stewardship of our animals. However, we also understand that animals are less important than humans. Animal rights activists seek to place heifers and hogs on the same level as people. I disagree.

I strongly oppose this legislation because animals should not be elevated above humans. Mr. Speaker, I would urge my colleagues to oppose this legislation.

HONORING CESAR CHAVEZ ON THE OCCASION OF THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS BIRTH

**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 28, 2007*

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and to honor the legacy of one of our nation's most important advocates of civil rights and labor organization. Cesar Chavez answered one of the highest callings of human life—to lead others in the struggle for social justice. It is for this reason that we proudly observe the 80th anniversary of his birth by voicing our support for House Resolution 76, to establish a national Cesar Chavez Holiday.

Born near Yuma, Arizona, on March 31, 1927, Cesar Estrada Chavez endured a difficult adolescence as a migrant farm worker when his formal education ended after the 7th grade. Migrant workers of this era suffered very harsh working conditions, and were routinely refused pay by farm owners. Chavez was able to escape this life by joining the United States Navy in 1944, at the age of 17.

In 1946, after 2 years of service, Chavez returned to California where he married Helen Fabela and resumed life as a farm worker. Before long, he joined the Community Services Organization, CSO, as a community organizer. Chavez traveled up and down the coast of his State urging Mexican-Americans to register to vote and become legal U.S. citizens, and frequently speaking on the topic of workers' rights.

By the late 1950s, Chavez was convinced that farm workers would be treated fairly only if they were able to form unions to represent their rights. After leaving his post as CSO president in 1962, he used his meager life savings to co-found the National Farm Workers Association, NFWA, the precursor to the United Farm Workers. Though past attempts to organize migrant workers had failed, Chavez traveled to dozens of camps in California and Arizona, teaching workers the fundamentals of union organization and inspiring many to become organizers themselves.

In 1965, Chavez and the NFWA led a strike on behalf of California grape-pickers that culminated in a 250-mile march from Delano, California, to the state capital in Sacramento. Senator Robert F. Kennedy, investigating the strike with the Senate Subcommittee on Agriculture, fully endorsed Chavez and his organization, and pronounced Chavez, "one of the heroic figures of our time." The Delano strike